APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/577,482	04/27/2006	Takeo Fujita	0925-0224PUS1	6675

2292   7590   07/15/2011

BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH
PO BOX 747
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747

EXAMINER
CHU, RANDOLPH I

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2624	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
07/15/2011	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *30 September 2010*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-10* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) *5 and 10* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-4 and 6-9* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *4/27/2006* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date ___.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this

application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action

has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on

9/30/2010 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

1.   In response to applicant's amendment received on 9/30/2010, all requested

changes to the claims have been entered.

Response to Argument

2.   Applicant's arguments filed on 9/30/2010 have been fully considered but they are

not persuasive.

Applicant's argue on page 9 of the response that Sato is distinguished from the

claimed invention in that nowhere does Sato teach or suggest a correction coefficient

calculating unit (or step) that calculates, based on a preliminary set table that represents

correspondences between distance-correction values and correction coefficients, a

correction coefficient corresponding to the calculated distance-correction value.

Although, Sato discloses a LUT 8, the values of the LUT are provided calculations of the

number of pixels forming the maximum distances (diagonal lines) for each of seven

types of semiconductor image pick-up devices, the number of pixels of which range

from 790,000 pixels to 12,600,000 pixels and not based on a preliminary set table. (See

paragraph [0043].).

The examiner disagrees. Only thing required by limitation "correction coefficient

calculating unit (or step)" is "calculating correction coefficient based on a preliminary set

table that represents correspondences between distance-correction values and

correction coefficients, a correction coefficient corresponding to the calculated distance-

correction value" and paragraph [0047] of Sato teaches Correction coefficients

corresponding to the above distance values d are output from the above-described

lookup table 8.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims1-4 and 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Sato et al. (US 2003/0156204).

With respect to claim 1, Sato et al. teach a distance calculating step of

calculating, by utilizing a distance calculating unit(Fig. 1 ref. label 4), the distance

between the coordinates of an image-constituting pixel (a desired point) and

predetermined reference coordinates (arbitrary origin) (para [0024]-[0028]);

a distance-correction value calculating step of calculating a distance-correction

value (The distance value converted by the converter), by inputting for the calculated

distance for corresponding variable in an N-order function (linear interpolation) which

has coefficients for variable (N being a positive integer) (para [0031]-[0037], Fig. 1, ref.

label 6, converter);

a correction coefficient calculating step of calculating, based on a preliminarily

set table (Lookup table 8) that represents correspondences between distance-correction

values and correction coefficients, a correction coefficient corresponding to the

calculated distance-correction value (distance value d)(para [0044]-[0047]); and

a pixel signal correcting step of correcting a signal for the pixel, based on the

calculated correction coefficient (para. [0061]), and

an updating step of updating distance-correction values by changing the

coefficients for the variable in said N-order function in the distance-correction value

calculating step in response to change in optical settings of an image pick-up apparatus

(fig. 1 ref. label 7, by supplying the multiplier corresponding to image pick-up device size

information, number of bits shifted (distance correction value) and correction coefficient

are determined).

With respect to claim 2, Sato et al. teach a correction coefficient calculating step

of calculating the correction coefficient corresponding to the distance-correction value

that has been calculated in the distance-correction value calculating step, by, based on

the table that represents correspondences between distance-correction values and

correction coefficients, linear interpolation using distance-correction-value data and

correction-coefficient data that are stored in the table (para [0044]-[0053]).

With respect to claim 3, Sato et al. teach that he reference coordinates in the

distance calculating step, the coefficients for the variable in the N-order function in the

distance-correction value calculating step, and the distance-correction values and

correction coefficients stored in the table in the correction coefficient calculating step

can be determined for each color component of the pixel (para [0031]-[0037]).

With respect to claim 4, Sato et al. teach that a distance calculating step of

calculating the distance, by regarding as the distance the sum of the distance between

the coordinates of a pixel corresponding to an image signal and the one of two sets of

predetermined reference coordinates, and the distance between the coordinates of the

pixel and the other of two sets of predetermined reference coordinates (para [0023]-

[0030], distance and pseudo distance).

With respect to claim 6, Sato et al. please refer to rejection for claim 1.

With respect to claim 7, Sato et al. please refer to rejection for claim 2.

With respect to claim 8, Sato et al. please refer to rejection for claim 3.

With respect to claim 9, Sato et al. please refer to rejection for claim 4.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RANDOLPH I. CHU whose telephone number is (571)270-1145. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 7:30 am - 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vikkram Bali can be reached on 571-272-7415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you

have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business

Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/RANDOLPH I CHU/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2624